



2008 Parks & Green Spaces Levy  
2012 – 2013 Opportunity Fund  
Scoring Guide

1. The Levy Oversight Committee will consider equitable distribution of Opportunity Fund dollars.
2. Development projects must be on public property.
3. Projects should be of a sufficient size and nature to produce tangible parks, recreation or open space benefits. For development projects, the project allocation range is \$200,000 up to \$750,000. For acquisition projects, the project allocation is up to \$1,500,000 and should be at least 10,000 sq. ft. (approximately) in size.

- a. **Does the project demonstrate a high degree of neighborhood support or involvement as demonstrated through a public review process and/or is the project consistent with approved plans, such as a neighborhood, community council or other recent planning documents?**

*MEDIUM PRIORITY (weighting = 2)*

**High:** The project is consistent with a Parks Approved Plan or other recent Parks Planning Documents.

Examples: Vegetation Management Plans, 2011 Parks Development Plan, Neighborhood Matching Fund Plan.

**Medium:** The project is identified in the City of Seattle Comprehensive Plan or in a Plan adopted by the City Council.

Examples: North Downtown Park Plan, Ballard Open Space Plan, or Livable South Downtown Planning Study.

**Low:** The project has demonstrated a high degree of neighborhood support or involvement as demonstrated through a public review process.

Examples: Letters of support from: Neighborhood or Community Council, District council or other organization representing a neighborhood that is recognized by the City's Department of Neighborhoods.

**Zero:** The project is not consistent with any approved plans and has no documented neighborhood support.

- b. **Does the project address a parks or open space deficiency (as identified in the Parks Gap Analysis) or expand an existing park site? – ACQUISITION ONLY**

*HIGH PRIORITY (weighting = 3)*

**High:** The project expands an existing park to fill an open space gap to a total of 10,000 square feet.

**Medium:** The project is in an open space gap, but less than 10,000 square feet.

**Low:** The project is on the border of an open space gap.

**Zero:** The project is not in an open space gap.

- c. **Does the project serve an underserved community?**

*MEDIUM PRIORITY (weighting = 2)*

American Community Survey Estimates of People less than 200% of Poverty Level (See ACS Estimates Map)

**High:** The project is located in a community that ranks 56% - 85% of less than 200% of Poverty Level

**Medium:** The project is located in a community that ranks 41% - 55% of less than 200% of Poverty Level

**Low:** The project is located in a community that ranks 26% - 40% of less than 200% of Poverty Level

**Zero:** The project is located in a community that ranks 0% - 25% of less than 200% of Poverty Level

**d. Is the project in an area experiencing growth, particularly an urban village or urban center?**

*LOW PRIORITY (weighting = 1)*

**High:** The project is located within an Urban Center or Urban village

**Medium:** The project is located on the boarder of an Urban Center or Urban Village

**Low:** The project is in a census tract (outside of an Urban Center or Urban Village) that is experiencing substantial growth (>10%) as measured by the percentage population growth between the 2000 and 2010 census.

**Zero:** The project is not in an Urban Center/Village or in an area that is experiencing substantial growth.

**e. Does the proposal restore or significantly extend the life of a current park or facility?**

*HIGH PRIORITY (weighting = 3)*

**High:**

Natural Areas: High Priority Green Seattle Partnership projects

Developed Parks: The project repairs, replaces or upgrades aging infrastructure or facilities, extending their life at least **20** years.

Examples: Play Area Renovation, Building Envelope Improvements (Roofs/Siding)

**Medium:**

Natural Areas: Forest restoration or trail restoration projects

Developed Parks: The project repairs, replaces or upgrades aging infrastructure or facilities, extending their life at least **10** years.

Examples: Interior Building Improvements (Windows or Lighting), Tennis and Basketball Court Re-surfacing, Ball Field Renovations.

**Low:**

Natural Areas: invasive removal

Developed Parks: The project repairs, replaces or upgrades aging infrastructure or facilities, extending their life at least **3** years.

Examples: Path Improvements, Partial Planting Improvements, Minor Interior Renovations

**Zero:** No Restoration or no extension of life of current park or facility.

Examples: New Park or New Park Feature

**f. Does the project provide health benefits or opportunities? (e.g. trails, bike paths, open space)**

*LOW PRIORITY (weighting = 1)*

**High:** The project increases the amount of open space or high intensity recreational opportunities.

Examples: New bikeways or play equipment.

**Medium:** The project improves existing high intensity recreational opportunities.

Examples: Existing trails or Play Equipment.

**Low:** The project provides improved opportunity for low intensity exercise or access to healthy food.

Examples: Overlooks or Picnic Areas, P-patch, community gardens, or urban agriculture.

**Zero:** The project doesn't provide any health benefits or opportunities.

**g. Does the project take advantage of an opportunity that will be lost unless action is taken?**

**ACQUISITION ONLY**

*MEDIUM PRIORITY (weighting = 2)*

**High:** If the project isn't funded in this round of the Opportunity Fund, the opportunity will be lost due to sale/development of property, expiration of leveraged funding.

**Medium:** The project needs to be undertaken within 5 years otherwise the opportunity will be lost due to sale/development of property, expiration of leveraged funding.

**Low:** The project is not under immediate threat of losing funding or opportunity.

**Zero:** No threat of loss of funding, opportunity or is a City Property.

**h. Does the project demonstrate new and/or creative methods to meet the community's need for parks and green spaces (sustainable energy practices, etc...)?**

*HIGH PRIORITY (weighting = 3)*

**High:** The project follows the Living Building Challenge's (LBC) Landscape & Infrastructure Typology, Sustainable Sites Initiative ([SITES](#)) or provides Sustainable Energy Practices

**Examples:** [LBC](#): Meet their requirements for the Site, Water, Energy, Health, Materials, Equity and Beauty.

[SITES](#): Meet or exceed standards for Hydrology, Soils, Vegetation, Materials and Human Health & Well Being.

Others: The project includes Solar Panels, Wind Turbines or other green energy practices.

**Medium:** The project meets the [City's Sustainable Buildings and Sites Challenge](#).

**Examples:** Reduce energy use, reduce water use from irrigation, reduce or minimize the use of pesticides and fertilizers, provide habitat, sustainable materials and site furnishings, control invasive species and promote native species, Address issues of crime and safety, create opportunities for environmental education and Capital Green.

**Low:** The project meets minimal sustainable requirements for development projects.

**Examples:** Low Impact Design to minimize stormwater run-off, LEED Certified Renovations and Buildings.

**Zero:** The project does not use any creative sustainable methods.

**i. How does the project leverage or have the potential to leverage other resources through the actions of other public agencies, funding from public, private or philanthropic partners, and/or in-kind contributions of time and energy from citizen volunteers?**

*LOW PRIORITY (weighting = 1)*

**High:** The project has 10% - 20% of the funding or in-kind contributions committed or in hand.

**Medium:** The project has minimum of 10% funding or in-kind contributions committed or in hand.

**Low:** The project has up to 10% funding or in-kind contributions or a funding plan (plans for applying for funding or in-kind donations.)

**Zero:** No additional funding or contributions in hand.

**j. What potential effects does the project have on the City's maintenance and operating costs?**

*HIGH PRIORITY (weighting = 3)*

**High:** No net increase in the City's maintenance and operating costs.

**Medium:** The project increases the City's maintenance and operating costs and a Business, non-profit or existing approved community group has agreed to take on all maintenance responsibilities for a period of at least 5 years

**Low:** The project has minor increase to the City's maintenance and operating costs and a Business, non-profit or existing approved community group has agreed to take on some maintenance responsibilities for a period of at least 5 years with a net result being reduction of maintenance costs for the Department.

**Zero:** The project will significantly increase Maintenance and Operating Costs.

Examples: Additional Park Elements or brand new facility.

**Proposed Scoring:**

High Priority: 3 points

Medium Priority: 2 points

Low Priority: 1 point

High ranking: 3 points

Medium ranking: 2 points

Low ranking: 1 point

Total Score = "Priority" X "Ranking"